

What is Money?

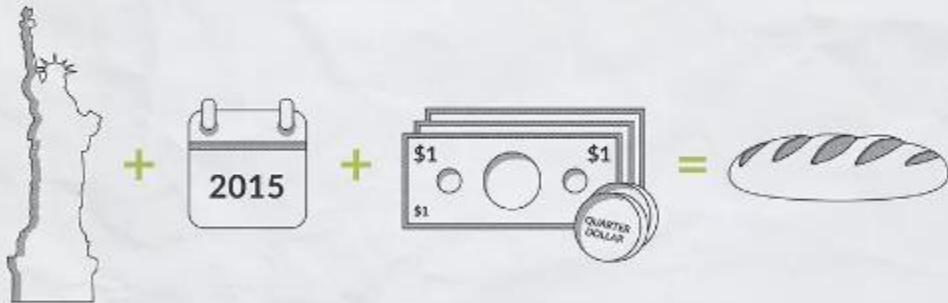
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<http://money.visualcapitalist.com/what-is-money-infographic/>



At first glance, the concept of "money" seems extremely straightforward.

For example:
the cost of a loaf of bread in New York City may be \$3.50.



But it's actually more complex than that.

The same loaf may have been paid for with:

2 QUADRANS
(BRONZE COIN)

509 BCE - 27 BCE
Roman Republic



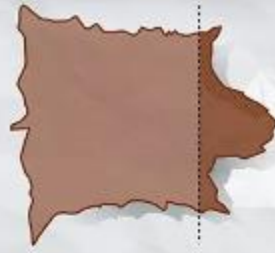
3 AES
(COPPER COIN)

Emperor Nero's Reign
Roman Empire



1 PENNY

Shakespeare's era
England



**0.2 BEAVER
PELTS**

1795
New World

\$0.21

1965
New York



**\$35 MILLION
ZIMBABWEAN
DOLLARS**

Hyperinflation Era
Zimbabwe

35 RUBLES

2015
Moscow



10¥

2015
China

**7.8 GRAMS
OF SILVER**

2015
Global



**23,000
DOGECOINS**

2015
Global

TIME AND PLACE CLEARLY MATTER.
HOWEVER, WHICH "MONEY" YOU PAY WITH ALSO MATTERS.

This all creates more questions than it answers:

ARE ALL OF THESE ABOVE THINGS
EXAMPLES OF MONEY?



IS MONEY
FINITE OR INFINITE?

WHERE
DOES MONEY
COME FROM?



HOW MUCH
MONEY EXISTS?

IS VALUE
CONSTANT,
OR DOES IT CHANGE?



HOW DOES THIS ALL AFFECT
OUR WEALTH AND
INVESTMENTS?

The Money Project acknowledges that
the very concept of money itself is in flux -
and it seeks to answer these questions.

Infographic: What is Money?

At first glance, the concept of “money” seems extremely straightforward.

For example: the cost of a loaf of bread in New York City at a grocery store may be \$3.50. We don't think about it much, and we pull out our wallets to pay with cash or a credit card.

But money is actually more complex. A very similar loaf could have been bought for:

- 0.4 aes during the Roman Republic
- 3 aes in Rome under Emperor Nero
- 1 penny during Queen Elizabeth's reign in England
- 0.2 beaver pelts in 1795 in North America
- \$0.21 in 1965
- \$35 million Zimbabwean dollars in the midst of hyperinflation
- 10¥ in China (equal to only \$1.50 USD)
- 35 rubles in Moscow (equal to only ~\$0.55 USD)
- 7.8 grams of silver (\$14 spot price)
- 23,000 Dogecoin cryptocurrency

Time and place clearly matters. However, which “money” you pay with also matters. What is money?

This all creates more questions than it answers:

- Are all of these above things examples of money?
- Is money finite or infinite?
- Where does money come from?
- Is value constant, or does it change?
- How much money exists?
- How does this all affect our wealth and investments?